India services and it is only in some exceptional cases that this maximum is raised to Rs. 8 by the Government of India Rules. The request for giving half pension to menials cannot be granted ; but the question of raising the maximum to Rs. 8 will be noted for consideration.

Mr. H. Krishna Sastry.—Government should have some data to fix the pension of menials. Menials have occasions even to risk their lives in the discharge of Government work and it is only fair that the men's services should be adequately remunerated. Government should also take into consideration the conditions of the present standard of living of such people and the pension so fixed.

Mr. A. Ananthaiya.—If as the Dewan was pleased to say, half pension could not be granted to menials, he wished to put before the Government another proposition for consideration. Till the menials reached a pay of Rs. 15, Government may pay the premia due to insure the lives of these menials for a policy of Rs. 300 and when their pay rises to more than Rs. 15 the premia should be required to be paid by the men themselves. At the time of retirement the bonus due on the policy and the gratuity and pension due to the men would go a long way to meet their requirements in their old age. With such facilities, no menial in Government service would think of leaving it.

The Dewan said that that was not possible.

Mr. R. Gopalaswami Iyer.—If Government saw no reason to modify the existing scale of pension granted to peons, Government should, at least, grant the same rate of pension as is given now in the Palace by His Highness the Maharaja and that the existing starting pay should be increased.

The Dewan said that the matter would be enquired into ; but that it was not then possible to grant the request.

SUBJECT NO. 2.

Reduction of pay of high paid officials instead of that of low paid ones.

Mr. Sahukar Veerabhadrappa, Chitaldrug Taluk.

Mr. Sahukar Veerabhadrappa.—The services of many low paid officials have been dispensed with owing to financial stringency, whereas the pay of high paid officers continues to be on the same scale as before and the number of such officers is also increasing. It is prayed that the number and pay of high paid officials may be reduced. Retrenchment is restricted only to ill-paid officials, though the saving effected thereby is very small.

The Dewan said that the inconvenience caused by retrenchment orders was being considered by Government.

SUBJECT NO. 3.

Inclusion in the State Budget of the surplus income of the Bangalore Cantonment.

Mr. H. Krishna Sastry, Krishnarajpete Taluk.

Mr. H. Krishna Sastry.—The surplus income of the Bangalore Cantonment area is not being placed at the disposal of the State regularly. It is therefore requested that arrangements may be made to include in the State Budget a statement of receipts and expenditure of the Assigned Tract, working out the surplus due to the State.

The Dewan pointed out that this subject was dealt with in his Address.

Mr. H. Krishna Sastry said that his request was only for showing surplus revenue to be realised from the Civil and Military Station in the State Budget for the information of the members of the Assembly and that the revenue should be realised regularly year after year without being allowed to accumulate into arrears.

The Dewan drew the attention of the member to the fact that a portion of the arrears of previous years had been realised and a sum of Rs. 7½ lakhs was included in the State Budget as the amount expected to be realised during 1923-24.

Mr. H. Krishna Sastry hoped that this practice of including in the annual Budget the revenue due for each year from the Cantonment authorities would be continued and that in addition the detailed budget estimates of the Assigned Tract would also be placed before the Assembly so that the members might have an idea of the Assigned Tract Surplus Revenue account.

Mr. C. Krishna Murthi urged that this was very desirable.

The Dewan said that a *pro forma* account was compiled every year according to the settlement arrived at in 1912 and that account was being furnished to the Government.

Mr. C. Krishna Murthi again urged the need for giving the Assembly a voice in the matter as it was very necessary that there should be some control over the expenditure met from that revenue to guard against the risk of the surplus vanishing with the growing expenditure of the Station.

A point of order was then raised by the Dewan who pointed out that the subject of the Assigned Tract Revenue was outside the scope of the Assembly's discussion and the attention of the members was again drawn to the Address wherein it was stated that the Government were pressing for a final settlement and that there was reason to expect that the question would be settled soon.

Mr. C. Narasimhaiya said that what the members required was that they should have means of satisfying themselves that the revenue due to the State was correctly calculated in terms of the settlement and was actually paid to them regularly and that they were not, in the least, anxious that they should discuss what was not within their competence, *viz*, the terms of the settlement.

The Dewan again pointed out that the Assembly was not authorised to discuss the Budget Estimates of the Assigned Tract and that, as was already stated, the Government were trying to come to a settlement and expected that this would be done soon.

REVENUE—(Land Revenue).

(*Nos. 4 to 13.*)

SUBJECT NO. 4.

Reservation of the power of suspending village officers to the Deputy Commissioners and of their dismissal to Government.

Messrs. Bale Siddalinga Setty, Yedatore Taluk; Linge Gowda, Mysore Taluk and H. Krishna Sastry, Krishnarajapete Taluk.

Mr. H. Krishna Sastry stated that prior to the year 1908, the power of suspending and dismissing village officers vested only in Government; but at present this power is being exercised by Amildars subject to the approval of Sub-Division Officers, the consequence being that, if a village officer was not in the good books of the Amildar, he was sure to suffer some punishment at his hands. He therefore advocated the desirability of reviving the practice that existed prior to the year 1908.

The Dewan pointed out that Section 7, of the Village Offices Regulation of 1908 was framed after a consideration of all aspects of the case and there was no reason to re-open the question. He liked to know what were the inconveniences caused by the existing orders.